

VI. *Descriptions of New Species of American Rhopalocera.*  
By F. DU CANE GODMAN, F.R.S., and OSBERT  
SALVIN, M.A., F.R.S.

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WE have long felt the inconvenience of having a number of unnamed species of Rhopalocera in our collection and the consequent difficulty of referring to them. We propose in this and similar papers to describe such species as require names and when necessary to give figures of the more notable forms.

We begin with the American Ithomiinæ, which require a good deal of attention.

*Tithorea furina*, sp. n.

*T. furix*, Stand. similis sed fascia anticarum mediana omnino maculosa distinguenda.

*Hab.* COLOMBIA.

This is a form of *T. furia*, Staudinger, but it differs in having the band, which crosses the middle of the primaries through the end of the cell to the middle of the outer margin, split up into six separate small spots. In *T. furia* these are partially run together and form a broken band.

We have six specimens including both sexes, most of them obtained by the late T. H. Wheeler during his travels in the interior of Colombia. One specimen was unnamed in Bates's collection.

*Tithorea flavilla*, sp. n.

*T. furix* quoque similis sed quoad maculis anticarum *T. furinx* proxima, anticis ad basin fere omnino nigris; fascia posticarum mediana nigra margine externo conjuncta, maculis tribus flavidis ad angulum apicalem differt.

*Hab.* COLOMBIA.

This seems to be another distinct form of this section of *Tithorea*. It has blacker bases to the primaries, almost as in *T. irene*, with narrow longitudinal fulvous streaks. There is a strong black transverse band on the secondaries, which joins the black outer margin near the apical angle, where there are three yellow spots.

One of our specimens is from the Valley of the Cauca; three others from Wheeler's collection but without record of the place of capture.

*Tithorea hernias*, sp. n.

*T. megara*, Godt. affinis, sed maculis omnibus anticarum minoribus ad basin fulvescentioribus; posticis fulvis, fascia mediana maculosa marginem externum ad angulum apicalem haud attingente, margine externo angusto.

*Hab.* ECUADOR, Sarayacu, Cururai, Gualaquiza (*Buckley*).

The narrow black border of the secondaries of this form seems to render it distinct from its near allies, of which the species of Guiana and the Lower Amazons which used to pass as *T. megara* of Godart, and Mr. Butler's *T. egaensis* are the nearest. The black transverse band of the secondaries is narrow and, in most cases, broken up into spots, some specimens having as few as two, others three or four.

We have eight specimens from various parts of Ecuador.

*Tithorea parola*, sp. n.

*T. hecalesina*, Feld. similis et forsan vix distinguenda, area mediana posticarum fulva multo magis extensa, area costali tantum nigra.

*Hab.* COLOMBIA, Cauca Valley.

This is probably the Cauca-Valley form of *T. hecalesina*, the types of which came from the neighbourhood of Bogota. The sole difference is in the greater extension of the fulvous colour of the secondaries towards the costal margin, which alone shows a black border. The black spot near the apical angle is more distinct.

We have four specimens of this form.

*Melinæa crameri*, sp. n.

*Papilio mneme*, Cramer. Pap. Ex., Pl. 190, fig. C. (*nec* Linn.)

Cramer's figure of what he supposed to be *P. mneme* of Linnæus clearly refers to a very different species. This is shown distinctly by five specimens from Guiana in our collection, four of which were sent us from British Guiana by Henry Whitely.

The differences consist in *M. crameri* having two black spots in the middle of the cell of the primaries instead of a comma-shaped spot extending towards the base. The base of the secondaries is fulvous and there is no definite fulvous subcostal stripe. The inner margin of the primaries is fulvous almost throughout its length, instead of black.

*Melinæa egesta*, sp. n.

*M. menophilo* (Hew. Ex. Butt. *Mechanitis* 1, fig. 3, *nec* 2) similis, sed anticis apice nigro maculis tribus in linea obliqua flavis notato.

*Hab.* COLOMBIA ; E. PERU.

We have four specimens of this *Melinæa*, two from Wheeler's collection from the interior of Colombia, and two from Dr. Staudinger, to whom they were sent by Hahnel from Yurimaguas in Eastern Peru. The species is closely allied to *M. menophilus*, Hew., of Colombia and Ecuador as regards its chief markings, but may at once be distinguished by the yellow apical spots on the primaries.

*Melinæa macaria*, sp. n.

*M. menophilo* quoque similis, sed anticis ad apicem flavo-maculatis ut in *M. egesta*, posticis plerumque nigris, margine externo et fascia subcostali tantum fulvis.

*Hab.* COLOMBIA.

Five specimens, of which three are from San Martin in

the Llanos of the Rio Meta on the eastern side of the Andes.

In the markings of the primaries this form almost exactly resembles *M. egesta*, but the black of the secondaries is concentrated into one patch instead of forming a double row of black spots.

*Methona psamathe*, sp. n.

*M. confusæ*, Butl. (*M. psidii*, Bates ex Cramer, nec Linn.) affinis et forsân forma geographica, fascia per cellulæ medium obsoleta et fasciis per cellulas alarum angustis distinguenda.

*Hab.* ECUADOR, Gualaquiza.

A name for this form of *Methona confusa* seems desirable, as its peculiarities are closely followed by a form of *Dysmathia orise* (Bdv.) found in the same districts.

We have four specimens, two of which were in the collection of the botanical collector R. Pearce, who took them at Gualaquiza in Eastern Ecuador.

*Thyridia colombiana*, sp. n.

*T. ædesiæ* similis sed maculis omnibus fulvis multo pallidioribus et magis hyalinis, parte inferiore maculæ subapicalis partim disjuncta, fascia per cellulam posticarum integra sat lata ad marginem externum paulo constricta.

*Hab.* COLOMBIA, Rio Meta.

We have long had a specimen of a *Thyridia* allied to *T. ædesia* which does not quite agree with our series of that species. The fulvous spots are more transparent, the subapical spot of the primaries is nearly entire and not divided, and a complete band crosses the secondaries through the end of the cell.

From *T. pallida* it differs in having the subapical spot of the primaries larger, and its inner edge much more broken; the black colour over the second submedian segment is wider.

Our specimen was obtained on the eastern side of the Andes of Bogota which is drained by the Rio Meta.

*Thyridia pallida*, sp. n.

*T. ædesiæ* affinis sed maculis omnibus fulvis multo pallidioribus semidiaphanis, plaga anticarum subapicali integra ut in *T. pythone*, Feld., fascia transversa posticarum quoque integra sed angusta.

*Hab.* BRAZIL, Matto Grosso.

Mr. Herbert H. Smith's collection from Chapada, Matto Grosso, contained a series of specimens of this *Thyridia*, which to some extent combine the characters of *T. ædesia* and *T. pytho*, a near ally of *T. psidii*. The fulvous marks are paler and more transparent than in *T. ædesia*. The subapical spot of the primaries is entire, the lower portion not being separated by a black band from the rest. There is no definite black spot at the end of the cell, but a narrow black line passes through the end of the cell and joins the outer border. In the arrangement of the black markings of the wings this species closely follows *T. pytho*, but the colour of the semitransparent marks at once separates it from that species.

*Mechanitis equicoides*, sp. n.

Alis anticis ad basin fulvis, ad apicem nigris, macula subapicali, fascia transversa irregulari discali flavis, macula rotunda in cellula altera inter ramos medianos primo et secundo nigra, vena submediana ad basin nigra, margine externo punctis sex albis notato; posticis maculis duabus, una cellulari altera ultra eam, nigris fascia mediana valde irregulari fere maculosa quoque nigra margine externo nigro introrsum irregulari, punctis tribus albis includente: subtus ut supra punctis albis submarginalibus magis distinctis et magis numerosis (in anticis novem in posticis septem); posticis macula nigra ad basin cellulae.

*Hab.* ECUADOR, PERU.

Dr. Staudinger has sent us from time to time several specimens of this species with the MS. name of *M. equicoides* attached to them, a title we now adopt. They are from São Paulo, Olivencia and Yurimaguas. We have

also a specimen obtained by E. Bartlett on the Huallaga River, and others from Ecuador collected by Buckley at Cururai. In all ten specimens.

*Mechanitis sylvanoides*, sp. n.

Præcedenti similis et marginibus externis alarum quoque albo punctatis; posticis autem fascia mediana et margine externo nigris confluentibus, anticis area ad cellulæ finem flavo tincta.

*Hab.* GUIANA.

A Cayenne specimen sent us some years ago by Deyrolle belongs to this form, and two others of uncertain origin from the Kaden collection agree with it.

The resemblance of this *Mechanitis* to *Heliconius sylvana* is great, the two insects being homœochromatic.

*Callithomia butes*, sp. n.

*C. thornaci* similis et forsân vix distinctas, alis anticis area apicali maculis flavis plerumque notata, posticis margine externo late nigro introrsum distincte dentato, fascia maculosa mediana magis distincta.

*Hab.* ECUADOR, Rio Napo.

We have fourteen specimens of a species of *Callithomia* which seems to be distinct from the single type of Bates's *C. thornax*, inasmuch as the apical area of the primaries is always marked with large spots of either yellow or fulvous, the former predominating.

Our series came from one collection made somewhere in the district of the Lower Napo, and they all have the prevalent fulvous tints peculiar to so many butterflies of that region; as is usual the amount of variation between individuals is considerable.

*Callithomia procne*, sp. n.

Alis anticis ad basin fulvis apicibus nigricantibus nigris fascia lata flava per cellulæ finem a costa ad angulum analem extendente,

cellulæ finem ipsam et ramum medianum secundum ad basin fulvis, maculis duabus nigris una ad cellulæ finem apud venam subcostalem altera inter venam medianam et ramum suum secundum tertia indistincta ad medium cellulæ; posticis fulvis, maculis tribus infra cellulam et margine externo apud angulum analem nigris: subtus anticis ut supra macula in cellula magis distincta; posticis fascia subcostali nigra interrupta, maculisque tribus submarginalibus albis ad angulum analem.

*Hab.* COLOMBIA.

Of this *Callithomia* we have two specimens, both females, one of them from San Martin in the Llanos of the Rio Meta, captured by Mr. G. D. Child. The other was given us by Dr. Semper and came from Sabatoga in Colombia. This specimen differs slightly from the other in that the black of the apex of the primaries reaches quite up the end of the cell, and the yellow cross-band is severed by the second median segment being broadly fulvous.

*Callithomia megaleas*, sp. n.

Alis anticis nigricantibus ad basin fulvis maculis sex submarginalibus ad costam extendentibus, stria inter venam medianam et ramum suum secundum, et fascia obliqua ultra cellulam flavis, fascia obliqua per cellulam altera inter ramos medianos fulvis: posticis fulvis unicoloribus margine externo angusto nigro: subtus ut supra anticis ad apicem posticis ad apicem et ad angulum analem punctis albis notatis posticis quoque area subcostali nigra.

*Hab.* PANAMA.

We have a single female specimen of this distinct species which was captured by Mr. Champion near David in the State of Panama.

*Callithomia philomela*, sp. n.

*C. zeurippe*, Bates affinis sed alis anticis angustioribus posticis laud semidiaphanis ad angulum apicalem strictissime nigro-limbatis, maculis transversis nigris ad marginem inferiorem cellulæ magis approximantibus: subtus posticis maculis submarginalibus albis

minoribus ad angulum analem tantum obviis ad angulum apicalem absentibus.

*Hab.* COLOMBIA.

We have three male specimens of this *Callithomia* taken by Mr. G. D. Child near San Martin in the Llanos of the Rio Meta, on the eastern side of the Andes of Colombia.